के रूप में आंके गए रुपए का मूल्य 1991-92 में 37.17 पैसे से घट कर 1995-96 में 25.97 पैसे रह गया।

(ग) और (घ) विभिन्न शहरों के बीच औद्योगिक कामगारों के लिए उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक में अन्तर रुपए की क्रय शक्ति में अन्तर की मात्रा का सूचक है। मार्च, 1996 में उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक में दर्ज न्यूनतम और अधिकतम स्तर अखिल भारतीय सूचकांक सहित नीचे सूचीबद्ध है:

औद्योगिक कामगारों के लिए उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक

(1982=100)

	सूचकांक	शहर
न्यूनतम	271	कोडारमा, बिहार
उच्चतम	365	त्रिवेन्द्रम, केरल
अखिल भारत	319	

Balance of debt repayment position with Russia

1617. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the latest balance of debt repayments due to Russia, and how much of it has so far been repaid in terms of the agreement signed with that country, both in terms of rupee and rouble; and

(b) whether Government are aware about the large scale abuse of the terms of this agreement by unscrupulous exporters and rackets running to turn huge amount of black money by way of fake exports into fair money, if so, the details of the cases that have come to Government's notice during 1994-95 and 1995-96 and the action taken and being taken to prevent such abuse?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Under the bilateral agreement reached between the two Governments in January 1993, the Rouble denominated State credits from the former Soviet Union were converted into Rupees. The outstanding amount of rupee debt payable to Russia as on June 30, 1996 is Rs. 26,866.5 crores (Rupees twenty six thousand eight hundred sixty six crores and fifty lakhs only.) An amount of Rs. 7,69,81,143/- (Rupees seven crores sixty nine lakhs eighty one thousand one hundred and forty three only) has since been paid towards repayment of the debt.

(b) Government are aware of the misuse of the rupee debt repayment route by some unscrupulous exporters. Govt. view this with concern and would take appropriate action against the offenders. Details of the individual cases where irregularities and malpractices have come to light, are being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Drainage of Revenue generated through telecast of different channels

1618. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total turnover of advertising revenue generated in the country through telecast of different channels in each of the years since 1991-92;

(b) the drainage of foreign exchange because of remittances made by foreign television channels out of their earnings from advertisements in India; and

(c) the procedure for assessment and collection of taxes from foreign television channels for such earnings?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) Gross revenue earned by Doordarshan through commercials during last five years is as under:

Year	Revenue (Rs. in crores)
1991-92	300.61
1992-93	360.23
1993-94	372.98
1994-95	398.02
1995-96	430.13

The Government does not maintain records of revenue earned by foreign/ private TV channels.

(b) The information is not maintained centrally in a compiled form.

(c) The procedure for assessment and collection of taxes from foreign television channels on their earnings from advertisements is the same as in other cases. However, keeping in view the problems in computation of income in the cases of foreign telecasting companies which do not have any branch office or permanent establishment in India or are not maintaining country-wise accounts, the Central Board of Direct Taxes has issued guidelines for computing the taxable income by adopting presumptive profit rate of 10% of the gross receipts meant for remittance abroad or the income returned by such companies whichever is higher.

Facilities to Thalessemia Patients in Madhya Pradesh

1619. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to launch a major programme to make pure blood available at the district and sub-divisional hospitals in Madhya Pradesh and other States of the country to the children suffering from Thalessamia particularly for those poor children who cannot afford blood from private blood banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what other facilities are being provided/are proposed to be provided to Thalessamia patients in Madhya Pradesh by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) to (c) For providing safe blood to needy persons, including thalessemia patients, under the Blood Safety component of National AIDS Control Programme, Govt. have set up a network of 154 Zonal Blood testing centres all over the country with linkages to blood Banks in Govt., Voluntary and Private Blood banks. The Blood Banks located in the Govt. Sectors are also being modernised with basic blood bank equipment and recurring grant to purchase blood bags and test kits for testing of blood for blood transmissible disease, namely, hepatitis, Syphilis and Malaria. In Madhya Pradesh, 9 Zonal Blood Testing Centres have been established and all the 49 Govt. Blood Banks have been modernised. Three Blood Banks *viz.* (i) Mahatma Gandhi Medical College and Hospital Blood Bank, Indore, (ii) Hamedia Hospital Medical College, Bhopal and (iii) Blood Bank, Gwalior Medical College Hospital, have also been modernised in respect of Blood Component manufacturing. Government have exempted Custom duty on Desferral injection to Thalesmic patients who are also being given priority for provision of blood subject to its availablity.

Medium and Long Range Debt

1620. SHRI MOHINDAR SINGH KALYAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total medium and long term debt of the country as on 30th June, 1996;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said debt is higher than the national assets;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government to reduce the external debt?